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Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT DAKAR 5388 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BAMAKO BANJUL NDJAMENA NIAMEY NOUAKCHOTT 4 DEC

QUOTE

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, SG, GA, OMVS
SUBJ: JAWARA'S VISIT TO SENEGAL

REF: DAKAR 4997 (NOTAL)

1. HIGHLIGHTS OF OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED DEC 1, AFTER CONCLUSION OF TWO-DAY VISIT OF GAMBIAN PRESIDENT JAWARA TO SENEGAL ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. JAWARA AND PRESIDENT SENGHOR EXCHANGED VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AND BILATERAL RELATIONS;

B. MEETING NOV 29 WAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE WORKING SESSION WITH SENEGALESE PRIME MINISTER DIOUF AND GAMBIAN VICE PRESIDENT CAMARA;
C. "THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE BROUGHT UP THE PROBLEMS
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OF THE EVENTUAL ADHERENCE OF GAMBIA TO THE OMVS AND TO

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THE COMMITTEE OF COUNTRIES OF THE SAHEL AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT";

D. THEY ALSO REVIEWED THE PROBLEMS CONCERNING THE ECONOMIC GROUPINGS OF WEST AFRICA; AND

E. SENGHOR CONFIRMED HIS ACCEPTANCE OF AN INVITATION FROM JAWARA TO VISIT GAMBIA IN 1974.

2. COMMENT: GAMBIANS HAVE IN PAST BEEN RELUCTANT TO PUSH FOR MEMBERSHIP IN OMVS FOR FEAR OF REFJECTION. SENGHOR-JAWARA COMMUNIQUE THUS SERVES SIMULTANEOUSLY AS TRIAL BALLOON AND INDICATION OF SENEGALESE SPONSORSHIP. GAMBIANS MAY HOPE GAIN OMVS MEMBERSHIP SOON AFTER SENGHOR SUCCEEDS TO CHAIRMANSHIP IN MARCH. AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THIS IS FIRST PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF GOTH INTEREST IN JOINING. INTER-SAHELIAN STATE COMMITTEE. INFO ADDRESSEES MAY BE ABLE TO COMMENT FURTHER ON GAMBIAN PROSPECTS FOR ENTRY THAT ORGANIZATION.
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